



REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPHS:

Paragraph 0006:

This object is achieved according to the invention by means of a method [according to Claim 1.] for controlling coolant quality of a fuel cell system via measuring the insulation resistance of the load circuit. In a preferred embodiment, the method comprises establishing a relationship between the electrical conductivity of the coolant and the insulation resistance of the load circuit; measuring the insulation resistance of the load circuit to determine the electrical conductivity; and monitoring the electrical conductivity of the coolant. Further advantageous refinements will be evident from the following description.

Paragraph 0008:

A suitable method for monitoring the insulation resistance of a load circuit of a fuel cell system is disclosed in DE-195 03 749 C1, corresponding to U. S. Patent No. 5,760,488, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. In said publication, it is proposed to implement the fuel cell-fed or battery-fed power supply system of a vehicle as an IT system (See Association of German Electrotechnical Engineers, Draft Standard Concerning DIN VDE 0100, Part 410, A3, Section 413, June, 1989) in which the loads which are connected to the load circuit are electrically connected to the bodywork of the vehicle with low impedance. The load circuit lines are preferably placed symmetrically at a potential above or below the potential of the bodywork of the vehicle here and connected to the bodywork of the vehicle at high impedance. Damage (for example damage to the fuel cell stack or short-circuiting of the load circuit line to

the vehicle bodywork) can be detected by means of a measuring bridge balancing stage and a measuring signal-conditioning isolating amplifier stage. The way of implementing an insulation resistance monitoring system is described in detail in the aforesaid document DE 195 03 749 C1. The following is restricted to the details which are relevant to the present invention so that for further details on the insulation resistance monitoring means, the aforesaid document is referred to expressly.